

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3096
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, UN
SUBJECT: USSR NOTE VERBALE DATED MARCH 15, 1977

REF: USUN 826

1. THERE FOLLOWS TEXT OF THIRD-PERSON NOTE DATED APRIL 5,
1977 FROM USUN TO SOVIET MISSION IN ANSWER TO ITS NOTE
VERBALE NO. 163:

2. QUOTE THE UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS
PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS TO THE UNITED NATIONS
AND ACKNOWLEDGES RECEIPT OF ITS NOTE NO. 163 DATED MARCH 15,
1977, WHICH REFERS TO CERTAIN HOSTILE ACTIONS AGAINST THE
USSR MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND ITS RIVERDALE
HOUSING COMPLEX DURING THE PERIOD MARCH 1 TO MARCH 14.
THE UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS HAS SOUGHT
TO IDENTIFY ANY AND ALL INCIDENTS INVOLVING THE USSR MISSION
AND ITS RIVERDALE APARTMENT SITE DURING THE PERIOD MEN-
TIONED. THE SOURCE OF INFORMATION IN THESE MATTERS IF THE
NEW YORK CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT.

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THE FIRST INCIDENT INVOLVING EITHER THE USSR MISSION OR ITS
HOUSING COMPLEX IN RIVERDALE OCCURRED ON MARCH 3, 1977 AT
RIVERDALE. ACCORDING TO RECORDS OF THE 90TH POLICE PRECINCT,
ON THAT DAY RABBI WEISS OF THE BRONX CHAPTER OF THE COUNCIL
FOR SOVIET JEWRY APPEARED AT THE MAIN ENTRANCE OF THE USSR
HOUSING FACILITY AT MOSHELU AVENUE AND 255TH STREET WITH

A FLAT-BED TRUCK, ON WHICH THERE WERE FOUR PERSONS, AND ATTEMPTED TO CONDUCT A RELIGIOUS VIGIL. THE POLICE OFFICER STATIONED AT THE GATE REFUSED TO ALLOW THE TRUCK TO PARK IN THE AREA AND RABBI WEISS AND HIS SMALL GROUP PROMPTLY DEPARTED. ACCORDING TO POLICE, RABBI WEISS RECEIVED A PERMIT TO DEMONSTRATE AT THE SAME LOCATION THE FOLLOWING DAY, MARCH 4, 1977; HOWEVER, THE PERMIT WAS NOT USED DUE TO A HEAVY RAIN.

THE NEXT RECORDED INCIDENT, ACCORDING TO POLICE RECORDS, OCCURRED ON FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 1977, AT APPROXIMATELY 6:30 PM WHEN 150 MEMBERS OF THE UKRAINIAN STUDENT ORGANIZATION GATHERED AT THE AEROFLOT OFFICES AND, FOLLOWING A BRIEF DEMONSTRATION THERE, MARCHED TO THE VICINITY OF THE USSR MISSION. THE NEW YORK CITY POLICE HAD BEEN ALERTED TO THIS DEMONSTRATION AND A DETAIL OF POLICE OFFICERS WAS ON HAND AT THE AEROFLOT OFFICES TO ACCOMPANY THE GROUP TO THE AREA OF THE USSR MISSION. THE POLICE SET UP A DEMONSTRATION SITE AT 66TH STREET AND LEXINGTON AVENUE. ALL DEMONSTRATORS WERE CONFINED TO THAT LOCATION AND NOT ALLOWED INTO EAST 67TH STREET. THE UKRAINIAN STUDENT ORGANIZATION HAD APPLIED FOR A SOUND DEVICE PERMIT AND A SPEAKERS' PLATFORM WAS USED. FOLLOWING SEVERAL SPEECHES, THE POLICE ESCORTED TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GROUP TO THE USSR MISSION WHERE THEY ATTEMPTED TO PRESENT A PETITION. THE PETITION WAS REFUSED AND THE TWO INDIVIDUALS WERE IMMEDIATELY ESCORTED BACK TO THE DEMONSTRATION AREA. AT 8:15 PM THE DEMONSTRATION ENDED AND THE GROUP DISPERSED WITHOUT INCIDENT. THE POLICE DETAIL ASSIGNED TO THE DEMONSTRATION CONSISTED OF 1 POLICE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INSPECTOR, 1 DEPUTY INSPECTOR, THE CAPTAIN OF THE 19TH POLICE PRECINCT, 3 SERGEANTS, 30 PATROLMAN, 1 MOUNTED SERGEANT, AND 5 MOUNTED PATROLMEN.

POLICE RECORDS ALSO REFLECT THAT AT APPROXIMATELY MIDNIGHT MARCH 12-13, 1977, 75 PERSONS HELD A SPONTANEOUS UNANNOUNCED DEMONSTRATION ACROSS FROM THE USSR MISSION. THIS GROUP IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN ATTENDING A CONCERT AT HUNTER COLLEGE ON EAST 68TH STREET. SOME OF THE PARTICIPANTS ARE KNOWN TO BE MEMBERS OF THE JEWISH DEFENSE LEAGUE. THE GATHERING WAS IMMEDIATELY REPORTED TO THE 19TH PRECINCT BY THE POLICE OFFICERS ON DUTY AT THE USSR MISSION AND A POLICE DETAIL RESPONDED. THE DEMONSTRATION LASTED APPROXIMATELY TWENTY MINUTES.

THE ABOVE-MENTIONED INCIDENTS ARE THE ONLY ONES ON RECORD WITH THE POLICE DEPARTMENT DURING THE PERIOD MARCH 1 TO MARCH 14. THE REPORTS DO NOT MENTION STONES OR OTHER OBJECTS BEING THROWN AT EITHER THE USSR MISSION OR ITS

RIVERDALE PROPERTY NOR HAVE THE POLICE RECEIVED ANY REPORTS OF PROPERTY DAMAGE OR PERSONAL INJURY AT THOSE TWO SITES. THE ONLY REPORT OF AN OBJECT BEING THROWN APPEARS IN THE FEBRUARY STATISTICS OF THE 50TH POLICE PRECINCT. THE REPORT STATES THAT A RESIDENT OF THE USSR RIVERDALE HOUSING COMPLEX OBSERVED SOMEONE THROWING AN OBJECT OVER THE FENCE. THE POLICE WERE SUMMONED BECAUSE IT WAS THOUGHT THAT THE OBJECT MIGHT BE AN EXPLOSIVE. THE SUSPICIOUS OBJECT TURNED OUT TO BE A PACKAGE CONTAINING GARBAGE. IT APPARENTLY WAS WASTE MATTER WHICH WAS SPILLED ONTO THE STREET BY THE SANITATION DEPARTMENT IN THE COURSE OF EMPTYING TRASH CANS. EVIDENTLY THIS ACCUMULATION WAS GATHERED UP BY A PASSER-BY WHO THREW IT OVER THE FENCE.

CONCERNING THE INCIDENT MENTIONED IN THE USSR NOTE INVOLVING THE USSR MISSION BUS ON MARCH 14, THE UNITED STATES MISSION REFERS TO ITS NOTE OF MARCH 23, 1977 WHICH DEALS WITH THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SUBJECT OF USSR BUSES AND EFFORTS BY THE NEW YORK CITY AUTHORITIES TO MAKE SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS FOR THEM.

IT IS NOTED THAT THE USSR NOTE OF MARCH 15 MENTIONS INCIDENTS AT AEROFLOT, INTOURIST, AND AT THE APARTMENT OF A SOVIET CITIZEN EMPLOYED BY THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARIAT. REFERENCE TO THESE INCIDENTS SHOULD NOT BE DIRECTED TO THE UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS. THEY MUST BE REPORTED TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE BY THE USSR EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON.

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3097

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
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THE UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS REGRETS AND DEPLORES ALL IRRESPONSIBLE ACTIONS BY AMERICAN CITIZENS AGAINST USSR MISSION PERSONNEL OR ITS PROPERTIES AND IT WILL CONTINUE TO TAKE WHATEVER MEASURES POSSIBLE TO PREVENT SUCH INCIDENTS. IN FURTHERANCE OF THIS AIM AND IN RESPONSE TO THE USSR MISSION'S REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON STEPS TAKEN BY THE RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES FOR THE PREVENTION OF SIMILAR HOSTILE ACTS IN THE FUTURE, THERE FOLLOWS A LISTING OF SPECIAL POLICE COVERAGE AT USSR ESTABLISHMENTS IN NEW YORK CITY: USSR MISSION - THREE UNIFORMED POLICE OFFICERS TWENTY-FOUR HOURS A DAY, SEVEN DAYS A WEEK; USSR CONSULATE IN FORMATION - TWO UNIFORMED POLICE OFFICERS TWENTY-FOUR HOURS A DAY, SEVEN DAYS A WEEK; USSR RIVERDALE HOUSING COMPLEX - TWO UNIFORMED POLICE OFFICERS (ONE AT EACH GATE) TWENTY-FOUR HOURS A DAY, SEVEN DAYS A WEEK; AEROFLOT OFFICES - ONE UNIFORMED POLICE OFFICER TWENTY-FOUR HOURS A DAY, SEVEN DAYS A WEEK; INTOURIST - ONE UNIFORMED POLICE OFFICER TWENTY-FOUR HOURS A DAY, SEVEN DAYS A WEEK. THE ABOVE-MENTIONED POLICE COVERAGE DOES NOT INCLUDE THE SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN BY NEW YORK CITY POLICE PATROL CARS TO USSR ESTABLISHMENTS NOR DOES IT REFLECT THE HUNDREDS OF POLICE MAN HOURS THAT UNIFORM AND NON-UNIFORM PERSONNEL DEVOTE TO THE PREVENTION

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AND CONTROL OF HOSTILE ACTIVITIES DIRECTED AT USSR PERSONNEL AND PROPERTIES. MENTION SHOULD ALSO BE MADE OF THE US FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES WHO DEVOTE CONSIDERABLE TIME AND PERSONNEL TO THESE TASKS.

THE UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS BELIEVES THAT THE USSR MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS APPRECIATES THE DETERMINATION OF THE HOST COUNTRY TO ENSURE THE SAFETY AND WELL-BEING OF USSR PERSONNEL IN NEW YORK CITY AND IT CAN ASSURE THE USSR MISSION THAT IT WILL CONTINUE TO FULFILL ITS RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THE HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT. UNQUOTE
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